(b) and (c) The Government is aware of the situation in the State and the same is under constant watch and close review. The State Government and the Ministry of Petroleum, have been duly sensitized. Regular review of security of these installations is being taken and necessary measures have been taken.

Direct Payment System for Workers in FCI

3286. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the direct payment system for workers of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) Food Corporation of India has arrived at an understanding with the All India FCI Mazdoor Federation for abolition of contract labour system in various depots of the Corporation based on certain terms and conditions subject to the approval of the Government. This being a major policy decision, requiring inter-Ministerial/Departmental consultations which process takes a long time, Government has not taken any decision as yet in this respect.

Foreign Tours by Officers

3287. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the foreign tours by the officers of the Ministry during 1996-97;

(b) whether deputing the officials to foreign countries is unavoidable; and

(c) if not; the reasons for sending so many officials abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The amount of total expenditure incurred by the Officers during 1996-97 on foreign tours is as indicated below:—

(i)	Erstwhile Ministry of Food	:	Rs. 5,78,567
(ii)	Erstwhile Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs, Public Distribution.	:	Rs. 5,50,629

The above amounts do not include hotel charges, claims of which have not been received from our Missions abroad/Ministry of External Affairs so far.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Soyabean

3288. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of places where soyabean is grown at present, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of soyabean produced in each State during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand the area under the soyabean cultivation; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The major Soyabean growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. The list of districts where large quantity of soyabean is grown in these States are given in enclosed Statement-I.

In addition, Soyabean is also grown in small quantities in he States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim and West Bengal.

(b) The total quantity of Soyabean produced in each State during the last three years is indicated in enclosed Statement-II attached.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The production strategy of Oilseeds including soyabean spells out the area increase programmes through sequential cropping intercroping, replacement of low economy crop and as substitute crop in problematic area/situations. To encourage higher area coverage under Oilseeds including soyabean, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 22 major oilseeds growing States covering 337 districts.